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## TERMS:

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Agent.—Major R. M. Cochran is appointed an Agent for the Journal, and is authorized to receive money and give receipts in my name. T. J. H.

## WEEKLY ALMANAC.

MAY, 1836.	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	MOON'S PHASES.
1 Friday	5 46 36					For May, 1836.
2 Saturday	5 36 57					n. n. n.
3 Sunday	5 26 58					Full 1 2 40 morn.
4 Monday	5 16 58					Last 7 6 8 eve'n.
5 Tuesday	5 6 58					New 15 8 42 morn.
6 Wednesday	5 07 0					First 23 12 18 a.m.
7 Thursday	5 07 0					

## Mr. McLane's Letter.

The following passages are from the reply of Mr. McLane, to the letter of the Anti-Masonic Committee of Pennsylvania. We recommend it to every American who has the least spark of pride or patriotism in his bosom, and who is not willing to sacrifice every thing to the success of his party. The picture drawn by Mr. McLane, of a virtuous, brave, and patriotic Chief Magistrate, exhibits a contrast with the example now before the nation, that the beauty of the one cannot fail to show, in the strongest manner, the deformity of the other. It is unnecessary to say to the reader, that on this picture and on that.—*Nat. Gaz.*

Seeking of the ancient Republics, Mr. McLane says:—

There has been the history of all free governments which have preceded our own, and though our people may become as enlightened as the most sanguine among us can expect, they may likewise be our history, unless we select for our public agents, and our Chief Magistrates especially, such as will have the firmness to discourage profligacy, moderate the spirit of party, and participate in none of its excesses. If it shall ever happen that a Chief Magistrate will be found in this country, having made his way to that high office by ministering to the irregular and sordid passions of the multitude, or to the vindictive feelings of personal parties, and possessing not the disposition and ability subsequently to regulate and control them; who shall consent to govern by the power of a faction, and not by the constitution; who, regardless of the only solid foundation of all true renown, and to ensure the consummation of party schemes, shall exert the power and influence of his station to inflame public mind, and foment and encourage divisions among the people; who shall deem all men enemies, and just objects of his denunciation, that may honestly differ with him upon points of his administration; who shall cheapen public trust by confiding office upon the unworthy; who shall dispense his patronage to reward his partisans and punish those who honestly exert their own opinion; whenever such a one shall appear, the knell of the republic will be sounded; and if his course should be sustained by the people, its doom will be irrevocably sealed.

My belief is, therefore, that the Chief Magistrate of a State or of the Union ought not, by his appointment to office, to sustain any principle of any kind, which makes it his duty to proscriber any portion of his fellow-citizens for a lawful difference of opinion; and more especially for opinion no way connected with their duty to the Constitution and the politics of the State. Having, by the result of our Revolution, and the establishment of our Constitution, secured the blessings of Liberty, if we have not acknowledged the liberty of thinking freely upon all subjects connected with our happiness, and acting upon the opinion thus formed, with decency towards others, without being exposed to proscription and disfranchisement, we have acquired nothing, and are to this day slaves. But this liberty I hold we have secured, and that no Chief Magistrate ought to interfere with it, and were he capable of doing so, he would be in my opinion "unfit to be the ruler of a free people."

Such is my idea of a virtuous, enlightened, and patriotic Chief Magistrate, fit to administer the Government of a free and enlightened people. Such a one it may be difficult to find, though it is presumed no one will deny that it is desirable and even a duty to approach as near as possible to a perfect government, and social happiness under it. The only question is, how near it may be practicable for us to come, and all must admit that we shall approach the nearer as the efforts of the People and the Government shall concur for that object. Happily for our country, we have one illustrious example, who it would seem has been given to us by Providence as an ever-living example from whom we might in all future times refresh our minds with lessons of real wisdom and patriotism. Washington was the head of the Nation, and not of a Party; and amid all the trials of his situation, critical and complex as it was; and amid the labors of organizing and conducting a new

Government, arduous as they were; beset also with the most dangerous of all jealousies, he made and preserved an united people, and finally retired from their service with greater character and more durable renown than he carried into it. During the administration of General Washington, most of the great questions which have subsequently agitated the country, and divided the people into parties, took their rise, and were freely and ardently discussed. During his administration, all the jealousy on the part of the State Governments, of the authority of the General Government, existed in its full vigor, and gave rise to the distinction of *Federal* and *anti-Federal* in our political divisions.

During the same administration, many of the most important questions regarding the positive and real powers of the several departments took their origin, and were variously treated; many points on the agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial policy of the Government, were also agitated; the general financial question of the Bank, was a prominent and exciting subject of discussion; and all the delicate and complex questions and collisions arising out of our foreign relations, led to the freest discussions and broadest divisions. Among the latter, the Proclamation of Neutrality produced as much agitation in this country as has prevailed at any subsequent period. The agitation spread through all parts of the nation, and clubs and societies were in many places formed to denounce the foreign policy of the Government, and to menace its Executive; nay, though that Executive was "the father of his country." To such extremes was the spirit of party carried, that he was not only opposed in his Cabinet, but openly reviled, and misrepresented in the country; and in some places burnt in effigy. It is in that early crisis of our history, that great man had given way to his personal feelings, and been disposed to maintain his power at the risk of the public tranquility; had he been content to enlist a party with him, or to enlist himself with any party; had he preferred to rule by a faction, to have appealed to the feelings with which his brilliant military career had inspired the great mass of his countrymen; to have rewarded his supporters and proscribed his opponents, no doubt he would have been sustained by a large majority of the people; but he would have inflicted the greatest of all curses upon his country, and never have acquired the rich renown with which his memory will be crowned throughout all future time. Far different was his course; looking to the occasional agitations of party as inseparable from the enjoyment of liberty; the stability of the Government, and the union and concord of the people, as the great objects of his care, he never once, throughout the whole of this perilous period, indulged in undignified passions or unworthy resentments; but, maintaining a noble severity, he looked down with calmness and circumspection upon the tumultuous agitation of the people, and watched the occasion to calm their discontents, and appeal to their reason and patriotism; proving, by his exalted moderation, the real strength and grandeur of his soul, and more firmly establishing his position as the real head of the nation. His appointments to office were made with a single view to *capacity* and *fidelity* to the Constitution, and their fitness has been universally acknowledged. It is the proud and exalted merit of his career, and which makes it an epoch in our history, that he so conducted himself in his great office, as on no occasion to sacrifice his duty to the public, to his own purposes; and that not a single instance of *party appointment* and *proscription* stained the purity or marred the beauty and harmony of his administration. This country has produced no second Washington; and it may be feared it will be long before it will. Nevertheless, it ought to be the fervent prayer of every true patriot, that that event may yet happen, and that its advent may be hastened, and that until it shall please Providence to raise up such another, we may constantly meditate upon his pure example, and that some one may yet be found who has sufficiently studied the model of the matchless patriot, to be able to preside over a united people.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

LOUIS McLANE.

PULASKI, (TEXAS), MARCH 24.

A Sign.—The flat-boat *Martin Van Burck*, belonging to Capt. Gatlin, ran against a snag on Monday last, shortly after cutting her moorings, and soon sunk over two tiers of cotton. We understand that her whole cargo has been saved, though in a damaged state.

We understand that Major Hayne's flat-boat, *Hugh L. White*, which preceded the other a few hours, rubbed the same snag, but passed without damage.—*Trumpet.*

Another Sign.—We see in a Philadelphia paper, amongst the commercial news, the following: "On Wednesday, the *Sch. Martin Van Burck*, 4 miles east of the Old Inlet, on her beam ends, and sails gone. Any information as to the fate of her crew, would be thankfully received.

J. MILLER, P. M."

"Great Bank Robbery.—The Merchants' Bank of Providence, R. I., was robbed on the 16th ult., of about \$150,000. A reward of \$10,000 is offered.

## SYNOPSIS

### Congressional Proceedings.

Saturday, April 23, 1836.

SENATE.—*Specie Payments.*—The resolution of Mr. Benton, for a law requiring all payments for the Public Lands to be made in *specie*, was taken up and considered.

After a debate, in which, Messrs. Benton, Webster, Niles, Ewing, of Ohio, and Calhoun took part, Mr. King, of Alabama, moved to amend the resolution by striking out all after "Resolved," and inserting, "that the Committee of Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the receipt, in payment for the public lands, of any thing but gold and silver, after the day of —," thus changing the character of the resolution from that of an order to bring in a bill, to one of a mere inquiry as to the expediency of doing so.

The discussion was then further continued by Messrs. Shepley, Mangum, Calhoun, and Porter; but before any question was taken, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—On motion of Mr. Dromgoole, the House took up the resolution, some days since offered by him, proposing to call upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information in relation to the Deposit Banks. When this resolution was taken under consideration, the question was upon a motion made by Mr. Wise, to amend it, by substituting for it a resolution offered by himself; but Mr. Wise on this day so modified his previous motion as to propose that his resolution, instead of being adopted as a substitute for Mr. Dromgoole's, should be added to it as a second resolution. The proposition was debated until the arrival of the hour to proceed to the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Mercer gave notice that he should, on Monday next, ask leave to bring in a Bill for the Distribution, among the several States, of the surplus revenue now in the Deposit Banks.

The balance of the day was spent in the consideration of private bills; some of which were passed.

Monday, April 25.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate a Report from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting additional returns of the amount of Public Money in the Deposit Banks.

Mr. Buchanan presented a memorial from the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, recently held in Philadelphia, "remonstrating against the admission of Arkansas into the Union while a provision remains in her Constitution which admits of and may perpetuate slavery."

The Naval Appropriation Bill was taken up; and, after some discussion, was laid on the table till to-morrow.

The Bill to distribute the Proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands among the States, was then again taken up; and Judge WHITE addressed the Senate at length in favor of it.

HOUSE.—Mr. Cambreleng, by general consent, reported a Bill making a further appropriation, of a million of dollars, for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Florida. Mr. C. remarked that the funds heretofore appropriated for this object were exhausted. The Bill was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole. It was afterwards considered, read a third time in Committee, and passed.

Mr. J. Q. Adams presented Joint Resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, in favor of the passage of a law for the Distribution of the Proceeds of the Sale of the Public Lands amongst the several States.

Tuesday, April 26.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, in reply to a resolution offered by Mr. Ewing, of Ohio, in relation to the amount of money received from the public land sales in certain States, and the places in which the proceeds were deposited, or to which they may have been transferred, &c.; which was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Morris presented the proceedings of a large meeting of Citizens at Cincinnati, Ohio, suggesting the propriety of acknowledging Texas as a member of the Union.

Mr. King, of Alabama, admitted that the situation of Texas was such as to excite the sympathy of all, but he thought it would be going too far to entertain the subject of acknowledging her as one of the United States. He moved to lay the proceedings of the meeting on the table for the present. [The motion was agreed to and every sane man, we should think, would desire to see it remain there asleep forever. What, in the name of common sense, have we to do in the quarrels of foreign nations? and, still more, what right has our Government to take any foreign State or Territory into the Union, without or even *with* its own will? None but madmen could advise an interference, on the part of our Government, between Mexico and her Texas Territory. We even think that a great deal of the sympathy expressed for the Texans is but morbid, or at best misplaced; and we must continue to think so until it can be proven to us that they have in reality taken up arms in defence of their rights and liberties, and not for the spoils of the vanquished. To men who combat for principle we shall never be stinting of our sympathy or assistance; but for *spolia mea* we have neither the one or the other.]

Mr. Benton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which was referred the Message of the President of the United States and the Reports of the Secretaries of War and of the Navy, reported a Bill making appropriations for Armies, Armories, &c.; which was read and ordered to a second reading.

The Bill from the House, making a further appropriation for the suppression of Indian hostilities in Florida, was read twice and referred.

The Public Land Bill was again taken up; and Mr. CLAY spoke at great length in favor of it.

HOUSE.—Mr. Dromgoole's and Mr. Wise's resolutions were again under discussion.

Mr. Thompson, of S. C. and Mr. Storer, asked the consent of the House, the first to offer a resolution, and the last a "memorial from a highly respectable public meeting," on the subject of the state of affairs in Texas; but were both refused.

The Bill making appropriations for the Indian Department, for 1836, &c. was read a third time, and passed.

The House then took up the Bill authorizing the President of the United States to accept the services of volunteers in certain cases, &c.; which was finally, after being amended in divers particulars, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Wednesday, April 27.

SENATE.—The Bill from the House, making appropriations for the Indian Department for 1836, &c. was read twice, and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

The Senate took up the Bill making appropriations for the Naval Service for the year 1836; which, after consideration, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, by a vote of 41 to 1. [The following are two of the sections of the Bill:

"And be it further enacted, That an Exploring Expedition to the Pacific Ocean and South Seas, and the same is hereby authorized and directed; and that the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to prepare, and send out for that purpose, a sloop of war, and to purchase and provide such other smaller vessels as may be necessary and proper to render the said expedition efficient and useful.

"And be it further enacted, That the use of so much of the appropriations for the support of the Navy, and other means and facilities under the control of the Navy Department, as may be necessary and proper for that object, be, and the same is hereby authorized; and, in addition thereto, the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated."

The Bill making an additional appropriation for the suppression of Indian hostilities, was ordered to a third reading.

The Bill from the House, authorizing the President to accept the services of volunteers in certain cases, was read twice and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Bill for the Distribution of the Proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands among the several States, was again taken up.

Mr. Ewing, of Ohio, moved to amend the Bill by striking out the words fixing the period of distribution at the first of May, and inserting the following words:

"One-fourth on the first day of July, 1836, and one-fourth at the end of every 30 days thereafter."

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Shepley moved to amend the Bill by striking out the words "the twenty-four States," so that after a Territory comes into the Union, she will have a right to a share of the proceeds, without any posterior legislation.

The amendment was agreed to.

After various attempts made to amend the Bill, by its enemies, all of which failed, and some unsuccessful motions to postpone it for longer or shorter periods, and to adjourn—

The question on the third reading of the Bill was ordered to be taken by yeas and nays; and being taken, was decided in the affirmative as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Black, Buchanan, Clay, Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, Ewing of Ohio, Goldsborough, Hendricks, Kent, Knight, Leigh, McKean, Mangum, Naudin, Nicholas, Porter, Prentiss, Preston, Robbins, Southard, Swift, Tomlinson, Webster, White—25.

NAYS.—Messrs. Benton, Brown, Calhoun, Canby, Ewing of Illinois, Grundy, Hill, Hubbard, King of Ala., King of Geo., Linn, Moore, Morris, Niles, Rives, Robinson, Ruggles, Shepley, Tallmadge, Walker, Wright—21.

HOUSE.—After the transaction of considerable private business, the House, in Committee of the Whole, took up the Bill making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year 1836; after some debate upon which, the House adjourned.

Thursday, April 28.

SENATE.—The Chair laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary of the Navy, enclosing a report of the Board of Commissioners, in reply to a resolution (Mr. Benton's) calling for a statement of the maximum amount of appropriation which could be beneficially expended in the Naval Defences; which was ordered to be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs, and to be printed.

A resolution previously introduced by Mr. Buchanan, instructing the "Committee of Finance to inquire into the expediency of authorizing the President of the United States to contract with L. Perceus for furnishing two groups of Statuary to complete the ornaments of the Eastern front of the Capitol," was considered and agreed to.

The Naval Service Bill, with amendments, and the Indian Suppression Bill, were both read the third time, and passed.

The Public Land Bill was read a third time; and the question being upon its passage, Mr. Benton made an unsuccessful motion to recommit it; and, after some conversation, the Senate adjourned without taking the vote, on its final passage.

HOUSE.—The resolutions of Messrs. Dromgoole and Wise were again under consideration, and were debated until the arrival of the hour for the Special Orders.

The Army Bill was again taken up, and debated. The Bill making appropriations for the Naval Service of the United States for the year 1836, returned from the Senate, with amendments, was taken up, on motion of Mr. Cambreleng, who remarked that, as the amendments contained some original propositions, it was necessary that they should be committed.

The amendments were read, and ordered to be printed, and, with the Bill, were referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Friday, April 29.

In the SENATE, after the morning business was disposed of, the Senate resumed the consideration of the Bill for the Distribution of the Proceeds of Sales of the Public Lands (now at its third reading), and the Debate upon it was resumed; and, after further debate, the Bill was postponed to Tuesday next.

In the HOUSE, very little business was done. The House adjourning at an early hour, not to meet again until Tuesday next, in consequence of a determination made some days ago, to allow the intervening time for cleaning, ventilating, and matting the Hall, to suit the change of the Season.

From the National Intelligencer of April 25.

We have not, for several years past, met with any document from any Department of the Government, more entitled to a close perusal and respectful consideration, than that from the War Department, which we have to day the pleasure to introduce to the attention of our readers. We do not refer so much to its merit as a composition, though that merit be uncommon, as to the liberality, breadth, and comprehensiveness of its views.

The Secretary of War, it will be seen, resolutely opposes his irresistible battery of argument against the notion of making the Maritime Coast, whether on the Ocean or the Lakes, impregnable, by means of a continuous line (or series) of fortifications. Our cities, such as are from their position exposed to naval siege, he would protect by fortifications, to the greatest extent required; but he boldly explodes the error of attempting the permanent defence of our estuaries and roadsteads by fortifications which would require a standing army of perhaps fifty thousand soldiers to man them, without their affording a defence upon which reliance could, with any certainty, or even confidence, be placed.

It has never happened to our lot to be more con-

roughly or instantaneously convinced of any thing (respecting which we had before a doubt) than we have been by the perusal of this document, that the whole scheme which contemplates the appropriation of the surplus revenue to the erection of Fortifications is fallacious, or founded on wholly delusive calculations. It would be a mode by which, indeed, the surplus revenue might be disposed of; but, beyond the expenditure suggested by the Secretary's Report, it would be just as wise a disposition of it to cast it into the Atlantic, as to appropriate and set it apart for fortifications whether fixed or floating.

What will give greater consequence to these views of the Secretary, in the estimation of a portion at least of our readers—for among them are not a few who entertain a high opinion of the judgment of our Chief Magistrate, in military matters at least—is the fact that they have the entire concurrence of the President of the United States. In transmitting this Report from the War Department (together with a Report from the Navy Department) to the Senate, the President intimates to that body his opinion in those various terms: "In respect to that branch of the subject which falls more particularly under the notice of the Secretary of War, and in the consideration of which he has arrived at conclusions differing from those contained in the Report from the Engineer Bureau, I think it proper to add my concurrence in the views expressed by the Secretary."

If Congress should enter into these views of the Secretary of War and the Executive, we should be glad to see liberal appropriations made for completing the unfinished fortifications, and laying the foundation of the new ones, deemed necessary, as well as for the improvement of the Navy, and gathering materials to promote its efficiency in future emergencies.

Entertaining the views which we do of the duties and powers of the Government, had it fallen to our lot to perform the task undertaken in pursuance of the Senate's resolution by the Secretary of War, we should undoubtedly have considered extensive appropriations towards the construction of certain great highways, such as Roads and Canals, an essential part of a system of national defence, of much greater practical usefulness than any quantity of stone wall that can be piled upon the Atlantic border. One million of dollars, for example, to convert the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal into a ship-canal, would be a more effective measure for the protection of commerce, and the ready collection of munitions and means of war, than ten millions expended in fortifying the entrance into Chesapeake Bay. There are parts of the country, again, the only way to improve the defence of which would be to make good ways to and through them. But, as we know that these are benefits to the People, and defences to the country, upon which the Veto has shed its fatal influence, we shall be glad to see any thing done towards the improvement of the national defences, which, in the opinion of the head of the present dynasty, is legitimately within the power of Congress.

The Land Bill.—Mr. Clay addressed the Senate yesterday in support of his great measure—the Bill to distribute among the several States the net Proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands. We thought, after hearing the able and comprehensive arguments of Messrs. Ewing, Southard, and White, in favor of this beneficent measure, that the subject was exhausted; that, at any rate, but little new could be urged in its defence. Mr. Clay, however, in one of the most luminous and forcible arguments which we have ever heard him deliver, placed the subject in new lights, and gave to it new claims to favor. He was not only strong and eloquent, as he ever is, but he was clear and perspicuous in the most complex part of his argument. Indeed, the whole train of his reasoning appeared to us a series of demonstrations; and we cannot conceive how any mind open to conviction could have listened to it unconvinced.

A large portion of the members of the other House, we were glad for their own sakes, were present during the whole speech; and the galleries were crowded to excess by great numbers of ladies as well as gentlemen.—*Nat. Intell.*

The surplus money in the Deposit Banks continues to increase. By the latest returns, according to a Report of the Secretary of the Treasury to the Senate, the amount in the affiliated Banks, to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, was \$33,224,924, and the amount to the credit of public officers \$3,477,252; making a total amount of public money of Thirty-six Millions Seven Hundred and Seventy-one Thousand Dollars in the Deposit Banks, subject to the absolute and uncontrolled pleasure of the President of the United States as to the particular Banks who shall enjoy the advantages of these deposits, the amount of which in some instances far exceeds the whole capital of the Bank. Is it possible that Congress can think of adjourning and leaving things in this way?—*Id.*

The United States and Mexico.—We copy from the Government paper, a Treaty with the Republic of Mexico, the ratifications of which, it appears, were exchanged no longer ago than the 20th instant. The object of this Treaty is to revise an obsolete provision in the Treaty negotiated with Mexico in 1828, and ratified in 1832, for ascertaining and marking the boundary-line between the Territory of Mexico (Texas in part) and the United States. Each party is to appoint a Commissioner and Surveyor for that purpose, and both Governments solemnly engage to provide any force that may be necessary to protect the Commissioners and Surveyors in carrying the object of the Treaty into effect.

It is a remarkable circumstance that the ratifications of this renewal of a treaty of limits—this solemn pledge of amity, with Mexico, should be exchanged at the very moment when friends of the Administration, aye, and pretty high officers under the Government too, are arming bodies of men, and encouraging them to march into the very territory which the Government is by treaty recognizing as within the undoubted limits of Mexico.—*Id.*

Mr. 'Scattering,' who has been a candidate for almost every office in the gift of the people for the last fifteen years, has come out, in a Connecticut paper, and declares being any longer a candidate. The old gentleman is evidently discouraged. He has been run down so many times, that we do not blame him for giving up the race.—*Boston Post.*

A Bill has passed the Legislature of New York, authorizing the construction of a Tunnel under the Hudson River, opposite Albany! It is said the work is to be commenced immediately.